

# MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

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Cover: Swallow-tailed Kite at Blackwater Refuge. Photo by Paul G. DuMont



## LEAST TERN COLONY AT SANDY POINT STATE PARK

*Lawrence W. Murphy*

While searching for a Killdeer's nest in a low lying, marshy area of Sandy Point State Park on June 10, 1971, I was attacked by a number of Least Terns (*Sterna albifrons*). Intent upon the Killdeer (which were evidently teasing me, as I never found a nest in the vicinity), it was some time before I noticed that at certain spots the attacks were more concentrated. But when three attacked at once (one defecating upon my shirt--a nasty habit I never got used to), I realized there might be a Least Tern nest in the vicinity. Although they have apparently not nested here in several years, Sandy Point State Park is well within their normal breeding range. Within a short time I had found one nest with two eggs, and a broken shell elsewhere.

Later trips to the same area produced the following statistics:

Date	Nests with 1 Egg	Nests with 2 Eggs	Downy Young Away from Nest	Early Juvenal
June 10		1		
June 15	3	2	2	
June 18	2	3		
June 20	2	2	3	
June 24	2	1	3	3 (two flying)
	1 young in nest			
	1 young out of nest			
June 30	1 young in nest			4

Unfortunately the area was frequented by swimmers and fishermen (including many children), so I hesitated to mark the nests; this forced me to rediscover every one of them on every visit, with a consequent inability to distinguish them perfectly.



The author in Least Tern nesting habitat at Sandy Point State Park

The area was about two acres in size, mostly fine sand strewn with pebbles, larger stones, and broken mussel shells. One side was bordered by tall reeds, the other rose to a sandy plain overgrown by low plants; at one end the area descended gradually toward a pond and an oozy mud flat. The so-called "nests" were only sites where eggs were laid. Eggs were found in various environments ranging from smooth sand to depressions in the sand with a greater or lesser amount of presumably accidental "nesting" material in the form of pebbles, pieces of shells, etc. These terns were not associated in their nesting with any other species of nesting birds.



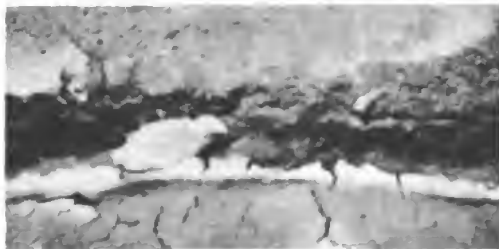
Three nests of Least Tern, June 20, 1971

All photos by Bernadette I. Murphy

There were at least nine different nests, at least eleven birds were hatched, and at least four survived part of the summer (June 30), my last opportunity to visit the colony.

The extreme downy young date as shown in Stewart and Robbins' "Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia" (page 167) is June 18 (1945), far to the south in Worcester County, so the two downy young found here on June 15 were quite early.

The young are precocial and the first two found (June 15) were about 15 inches from their nest and heading toward the mud flats. They did not move while I was in the area. It appears that all of these young went directly from the egg to the mud; I presume their parents guided them somehow, but was unable to find any specific behavior in this regard. Once in the muddy area, the birds secreted themselves in the sun-baked ruts in the mud. They were quite hard to find there, and were probably safe from most predators, floods obviously being their greatest danger. The omnivorous Great Black-backed Gulls frequenting the neighborhood did not seem to disturb them at all. The parents fed the young in the ruts with whole minnows or other tiny fish.



Chick hiding in a rut

The ability of the young to maintain life during their first few days is enhanced by the ability to "play dead." Held in the hand, they remained absolutely motionless. One was placed upside down in a rut and did not stir until I had left.

This behavior is different from that described by Arthur C. Bent in "Life Histories of North American Gulls and Terns" (page 275), which states that "The young remain in the nest for a few days..." If this were so in the case of our Sandy Point terns, I would surely have found more of them in the nest in my four trips from June 15 to June 24. This deviant behavior may have been caused by the continual passage of people within one hundred yards of the nesting area.

After an estimated four to five days of this regimen, the young are strong enough to run fast, and do so rather than play dead (now again in conformity with Bent's description of their later movements). At this time they move into the water region and hide in the reeds, where they crawl about like rails and swim in small pools of water.

When I returned to the colony in mid-August, I found seven immatures flying with adult Least Terns, but I could not tell whether these were young that had hatched here.

## SPRING 1971 OBSERVATIONS AT LILY PONS, MARYLAND

*Paul W. Woodward*

Three Springs Fisheries is located at Lily Pons, Maryland, about 6 miles south of Frederick. Situated along the wooded Monocacy River, it consists of a series of various-sized impoundments among an open rolling pasture and covers about 600 acres. Periodically these impoundments are drained, thus creating excellent habitat for shorebirds and other waterbirds. "Lily Pons" is, in fact, one of the few permanent areas in the Maryland Piedmont Region where migrating shorebirds feed and rest.

Many unusual birds have been recorded there (Carlson, 1964; Warfield, 1965; Rowlett, 1971 and 1972; and many other reports in *Maryland Birdlife*), but as far as I can determine no systematic spring observations have been made and published. Systematic observations were made in the fall of 1964 and 1965, but never published.

During the spring of 1971, from mid-April through June, I counted shorebirds and other waterbirds there at approximately weekly intervals. Usually these counts were made in the early afternoon and lasted from 1 to 2 hours. I walked around the entire area and surveyed all the ponds, especially the ones with exposed mudflats.

I recorded 13 species of shorebirds on these counts (Table 1).

Table 1. Counts of shorebirds at Lily Pons, Maryland, spring 1971.

Species	April			May				June	
	16	23	30	6	14	21	27	3	12
Semipalmated Plover			5	2	4	16			
Killdeer	7	8	11	4	5	5	6	5	6
Ruddy Turnstone						1			
Common Snipe	3	11	7	5					
Spotted Sandpiper		1	11	11	10	7	10	4	4
Solitary Sandpiper		3	4	17	7		1		
Greater Yellowlegs	27	22	17	2	6				
Lesser Yellowlegs		3	81	51	30				
Pectoral Sandpiper	35	23	37	1	6				
White-rumped Sandpiper							1		1
Least Sandpiper			4	4	46	9			
Dunlin	1		1		6	21		1*	
Semipalmated Sandpiper					6	51			1
Totals	73	71	178	97	126	110	18	10	12

\*injured

Stewart and Robbins (1958) consider 10 of these species uncommon to common in the Piedmont, 2 (White-rumped Sandpiper and Dunlin) rare, and

1 (Ruddy Turnstone) casual. I started the counts too late to follow the complete migration of the Killdeer, Common Snipe, Greater Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, and Dunlin, but for the other 8 species I have a good general summary of their spring migration. The reader can determine the periods of migration and the peak of migration from Table 1. I have no comparable data for other years.

At least 2 pairs of Killdeer nested. On April 30 I found a nest with 4 eggs and 2 large downy young in another section of the area. The eggs hatched on May 14, but I did not see the young on subsequent trips. Spotted Sandpipers undoubtedly nested, but I did not find any nests.

Nineteen other species of interest were observed. The following Species Accounts give the details of these sightings. Their status in the Maryland Piedmont is taken from Stewart and Robbins (1958) and *Maryland Birdlife*.

#### SPECIES ACCOUNT

*Little Blue Heron*. One immature was seen on May 21. Although a fairly common postbreeding transient in the Piedmont, Little Blue Herons are rarely recorded there in spring.

*Cattle Egret*. An adult in breeding plumage, probably the same bird, was seen on April 30, May 6 and 21, and June 12. Cattle Egrets are rare but regular vagrants in the Piedmont.

*Common Egret*. One seen on May 21. Common Egrets are casual spring vagrants in the Piedmont.

*Least Bittern*. The first Least Bittern was seen on May 21. A nest with 3 eggs was found on June 3. Nine days later it contained 5 eggs, and on June 27 4 nestlings were present. Least Bitterns commonly breed in tidewater Maryland, but rarely in the Piedmont. This is the first definite breeding record for Frederick County.

*American Bittern*. Single American Bitterns were seen on April 30 and May 6. They are uncommon transients in the Piedmont.

*Glossy Ibis*. One seen on May 21. Glossy Ibis are uncommon vagrants in the Piedmont.

*Mallard*. I found at least 2 and probably 3 different broods of Mallards. On May 6 I found one with 12 to 15 young, on May 14 broods of 8 and 9, on May 27 a brood of 8, and on June 3 one of 12.

*Blue-winged Teal*. This species was present throughout the period. Maximum counts were 9 on April 23 and 10 on May 6. During June a pair was present in one of the ponds near the parking lot. When I approached, the male flew off and the female tried to distract me by flopping over the water, but no nest was found. In ducks the male usually deserts the female after the eggs are laid, so it is unlikely that any nest was



present. Blue-winged Teal do not normally nest in the Piedmont.

*American Widgeon.* A pair was present on May 6, near the end of the normal spring migration period.

*Wood Duck.* On May 6 I found Wood Duck broods of 5, 12+, and 17 ducklings respectively.

*Lesser Scaup.* Two males and a female were seen on April 30.

*Hooded Merganser.* A female Hooded Merganser was seen on April 30.

*Osprey.* One to 2 were present from April 16 to May 14.

*King Rail.* First seen on May 6. Two adults and a chick were found on June 20. Rowlett found a family with 6 nestlings on May 29 (DuMont and DuMont, 1971). This may have been the same group. King Rails are uncommon and local breeders in the Piedmont.

*Sora.* One Sora was seen on May 14, near the end of the normal spring migration period.

*Common Gallinule.* One was seen on April 16 and May 6. Common Gallinules are rare transients in the Piedmont.

*American Coot.* Two to 4 were present most of the period. They may have nested since 1 to 2 were present throughout June, but no nest or nestlings were found. Coots rarely nest in Maryland.

*Ring-billed Gull.* One was seen on May 6.

*Bonaparte's Gull.* Three Bonaparte's Gulls were seen on April 16.

I plan to census Lily Pons again during the spring of 1972. With another year's data I should be able to make meaningful comparisons and generalizations about the spring shorebird migration in the Maryland Piedmont.

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## ALBINO SLATE-COLORED JUNCO BANDED IN KENT COUNTY

*Margery Plymire*

We first saw the albino Slate-colored Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) at 9:30 a.m. on December 2, 1971, at Tolchester Estates, Kent County, Md. It was a beautiful clear day, and the bird was most cooperative, so we had no difficulty in identifying it. Photographs were taken that morning, and though they are distant shots, they show the general whiteness of the bird.

We set a line of nets that captured a number of other birds, but no albino. Because of the continued warm weather, people were not feeding very seriously in the neighborhood, but we did ask feeder operators to watch for the bird and let us know when they saw it. Plans for Christmas and other commitments intervened, and so it was not until January 18 that another net was set for the albino. By then we knew something of her habits, and were able to formulate a plan. A single net was set, and the next morning at 7:15 she was in it.

She was banded with number 1270-51523. We judged her a female by her wing chord measurement of 71 mm. Her skull was fully ossified. We noted more than usual feather wear in both remiges and rectrices. The body contour feathers are medium-to dark-gray proximally, and white at the tips, giving the bird a nearly all-white appearance. In hand it can be seen that she is somewhat grayish, particularly about the head, and that there is a detectable difference between the white outer rectrices and the inner ones which are faintly gray. The shafts of the remiges are white. The eyes, legs and skin are similar in color to those of other juncos, and the bill may be somewhat pinker. This photograph was taken.



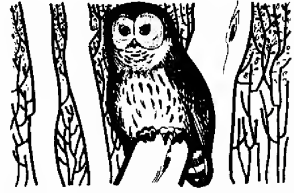
When 1270-51523 was retrapped on February 23, 1972, it was noted that a missing rectrix had been replaced, and that the new feather showed considerable wear, so that all appeared much worn as previously.

We have seen no evidence of albinism in other members of this bird's flock.

R.D. 2, Chestertown

# THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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Our Society's efforts over the past three years to work toward restoring Maryland's badly depleted Eastern Bluebird population are beginning to bear some fruit. The principal reason for the bluebird's decline seems to be a shortage of natural cavities for nesting and the overwhelming competition from the alien House Sparrows and Starlings for the cavities that can still be found. What we are trying to do, therefore, is to provide badly needed safe nesting sites for the bluebirds by setting out and monitoring large numbers of starling-proof nesting boxes in suitable bluebird habitats. The Audubon Naturalist Society has completed its sixth successful year of a similar project, and since a number of collaborators are working with both organizations there is considerable overlapping in the results reported.

Our Allegany Chapter has a "bluebird trail" of 32 nesting boxes at Carey Run Sanctuary. These were monitored regularly by Dale Fuller who reported that 25 young bluebirds and 23 young Tree Swallows were fledged from these boxes this year. The Chapter also set out 50 or more additional nesting boxes in various parts of Allegany and Garrett Counties.

Sister Barbara Ann of the Baltimore Chapter continued to maintain 10 nesting boxes on the spacious grounds of All Saints Convent near Catonsville. Forty-one young bluebirds were fledged, an excellent record for this number of boxes.

Edwin T. McKnight of the Montgomery Chapter in partnership with David B. Stewart continued to operate two bluebird trails in Maryland, one of 20 boxes between Potomac and Sycamore Landing which yielded 68 fledglings, and one of 10 boxes near Frederick from which 3 young were fledged. They also operated another successful trail of 28 boxes in Stafford County, Virginia from which 94 young bluebirds were fledged.

Daniel Boone of the Washington Chapter with his brother Jon Boone maintained bluebird trails of 32 boxes near Smithsburg, 13 boxes near Boonesboro, both in Washington County; and 11 boxes near Dunkirk in Calvert County. These trails yielded 77, 4, and 58 bluebird fledglings respectively. The Dunkirk trail was remarkably successful with more than 5 bluebirds fledged per box during the season.

Mrs. Rena Bishop of the Patuxent Chapter established a bluebird trail of 20 nesting boxes at Fort Meade from which 54 young were fledged. The bluebird trail operated by the writer at the Agricultural Research Center near Beltsville continued to be successful. Of the 68 nesting

boxes on this trail, 53 were occupied by bluebirds during the season, 52 successful broods were raised, and 190 young were fledged.

Bluebirds on the Eastern Shore evidently are still extremely scarce during the nesting season. The only encouraging news received from that area was from Mr. John H. Anderson who reported that bluebirds nested this year in two of the 14 nesting boxes on his farm near Easton in Talbot County.

During the year nearly 4,000 copies of the MOS "Bluebird Nesting Box Plans and Instructions" were distributed, about 900 of which were in response to direct requests resulting from publicity in 70 Maryland newspapers. Copies were also requested by the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology for distribution to persons and organizations asking for this kind of information.

MOS has assisted the Potomac Area Council of Camp Fire Girls in developing its "Let's Bring Back the Eastern Bluebird" project by supplying information and giving five talks and demonstrations to a total of more than 600 Camp Fire leaders and girls.

Because of an apparently authentic report that bluebirds in search of nesting sites have been killed in enormous numbers in certain tobacco growing areas by becoming trapped in the flues of the burners used in tobacco barns, MOS appealed to the Secretary of Agriculture to take steps to end this totally unnecessary slaughter. As a result of our appeal both the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of the Interior have alerted their key personnel in these areas to the problem so that they can urge tobacco farmers to install inexpensive protective screens on the rain caps of their tobacco barn flues. These screens make it impossible for birds to enter the flues.

It is not possible to assess the impact of our various educational activities on the bluebird population, but it seems reasonable to expect that it may prove to be considerable over a period of years. Continued efforts by a great many people will probably be required to insure the survival of our beautiful bluebird for future generations to enjoy.

*Lawrence Zeleny*

## A NOTE ON THE FEEDING BEHAVIOR OF THE TREE SWALLOW

*David S. Lee and L. Richard Franz*

On August 7, 1970, we noticed several thousand Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) feeding over the small corner of a corn field near the Wye Institute in Talbot County, Maryland. The birds were observed between 11:15 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; by 2:30 they had dispersed. Several hundred birds were killed by automobiles on a small paved road bordering

the field. A dozen of these birds were preserved and their stomachs removed in order to determine the cause of this large feeding aggregation.

All stomachs contained large numbers of corn flea beetles (*Chaetocnema pulicaria*). No other recognizable food items were present. The number of beetles in one stomach numbered 170; this appeared to be an average number, but food items were not individually counted for the other eleven birds.

The flea beetles, which are only 1.5 to 2.5 mm in length, are injurious to young corn. They pass the winter as adults along the edges of woodlands. In the spring they become active, mate, and lay their eggs on the leaves of the young corn plants. Most damage is done by adults feeding on the leaves and disseminating wilt disease, a bacterium harbored in the overwintering beetles.

This note further illustrates the underestimated commercial value of biological controls.

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## A NEGLECTED AREA: BLOODSWORTH ISLAND AND VICINITY

*Henry T. Armistead*

Bloodsworth, Pone, Adam, Holland, Northeast, and Spring Islands are in central Chesapeake Bay in extreme southwestern Dorchester County, Md. As far as I know, bird observations for the latter five islands have never appeared in literature. I made a short camping trip to these islands on May 27-29, 1972. My tent was pitched on the north end of Navy owned Adam Island about a mile south of the edge of the bombardment impact area on Bloodsworth and Pone Islands.

### BLOODSWORTH ISLAND

The Navy was kind enough to permit exploration of areas outside of the impact area. East of these, but still on Bloodsworth Island, are about 180 active Great Blue Heron nests along Fin Creek Ridge. Formerly there was a fine growth of large loblollies here, but these were burned, and now the herons nest on the remaining dead trees. On a very clear day these nests are just visible through a 25X 'scope all the way from the end of the Elliott Island Road.

It is easy at high tide to run a small outboard parallel to the colony along Fin Creek and thus penetrate the island for at least half a mile, at which point what look like large bomb flukes may be seen sticking up out of the *Juncus* grass. Several dozen Common Egrets share the heronry, and small numbers of all other Maryland heron species (except bitterns) are present in the breeding season and may nest. It is

tempting to land and look for these, but when one realizes that this area has been shelled for over 30 years discretion becomes the order of the day. About 21 pairs of Ospreys nest on Bloodsworth Island, mostly in the heronry area, but several have their nests on top of brightly painted orange and red jeeps and station wagons within the impact area! Just west of these vehicular nests, off of Pone Island, the boatman at high tide must beware of five Sherman tanks barely protruding above the surface.

#### ADAM ISLAND

Adam Island is a narrow marsh island just under a mile long. The northern part is composed mostly of short marsh grasses and small ponds with a few sandy areas and sod banks at water's edge. The central part has quite a few Red Cedars, some small Loblolly Pines, and dense Poison Ivy in which are eight active Great Blue Heron nests. To the south the island broadens into a dense *Juncus* marsh with tidal creeks where Clapper Rails are common. A deteriorating watch tower and an abandoned house, which burned down earlier in May, are at the northeast end. From two to five American Oystercatchers, new to the county, were seen here May 27-29. There are a few other records for Maryland parts of the Bay. They were observed feeding and calling during the whole period of the visit, and the possibility of their nesting cannot be discounted. They are apparently regular in summer farther south at Smith Island (Md.) and Tangier Island (Va.).

The following species almost certainly nest at Adam Island: Great Blue Heron (eight active nests), Green Heron, Black Duck, Osprey (four active nests), Clapper Rail, Willet, Barn Owl (heard often both nights, probably nests in tower), House Wren, Long-billed Marsh Wren (five empty nests found, but only one bird seen), Catbird, Starling, Yellowthroat, Red-winged Blackbird, Boat-tailed Grackle, Cardinal, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, and Song Sparrow. Up to seven Yellow-crowned Night Herons were also seen and undoubtedly nest locally as I have also seen them nearby at Bishop's Head, Holland Island, and every time I have been to Bloodsworth Island. Barn Swallows were also common and may nest under the tower. In addition I found two Laughing Gull eggs, empty and with holes in them, but each with at least one whole side intact. They measured  $2 \frac{1}{16}$ " X  $1 \frac{3}{8}$ " and  $2 \frac{1}{8}$ " X  $1 \frac{3}{8}$ ", within the range specified by Bent (1921) and somewhat larger than Common Tern eggs. They were lying on a sandy area with no sign of a nest nearby. Their isolated presence here is most peculiar. If this can be considered as a breeding record, then it is a new one for the county.

There is much to see out here other than the birds. Hundreds of Fiddler Crabs scuttle along the banks of tidal creeks. Tens of thousands of periwinkles clutch to the marsh grass. Several times I had to empty my knee boots of them. Inch long baby Diamondback Terrapin creep through the marsh mud toward the open water. In the center of the island I almost stepped on a small fawn bedded down in the *Spartina patens*. A Mink, curious and unafraid, ran along the sandy shore at low tide with a dead Toadfish in its mouth. Near the campsite, a fisherman caught a two foot Sea Trout.

## HOLLAND ISLAND

Just south of Adam Island lies Holland Island, also about a mile long and narrow, but quite higher. Holland Island is the only island in the Maryland part of the Bay south of Bloodsworth Island which is not predominantly a marsh island. It has a fine growth of deciduous trees in contrast to most other local islands, where, if there are any trees at all, there are usually Red Cedars and Loblolly Pines. Holland Island is owned by a hunt club and is mentioned in connection with market hunting in Walsh (1971) during the "old days." There is an attractive wood frame house in the center of the island with an active Osprey nest on the north chimney. Great Blue Herons and Common Egrets nest over most of the island, and at the north end is a thriving heronry where at least seven heron species nest. According to the men I talked with at the hunt club the heronry has existed for a long time. The following were observed brooding on nests: Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Common Egret, Snowy Egret, Louisiana Heron (first county breeding record), Black-crowned Night Heron, and Glossy Ibis (first county breeding record). Two Yellow-crowned Night Herons were also seen in the area. I climbed one small tree where I found two Glossy Ibis nests (four eggs each) and four Snowy Egret nests (3 eggs, 3 eggs, 4 young, 3 young). This area also has a rank growth of Poison Ivy. There are four active Osprey nests on Holland Island. Due to the dense foliage and the fact that I only spent a few hours on the island it was impossible to make an accurate count of the number of nests here, but I would guess that there were under one hundred pairs of herons. Holland Island has been greatly eroded, but formerly supported a large community.

## NORTHEAST AND SPRING ISLANDS

East of Adam and Holland Islands are Northeast Island (Navy owned) and Spring Island (privately owned). Both are unremarkable, low-lying marsh islands less than one half mile long with no trees. The only breeding birds present on either one were Ospreys (two active nests on each island on duck blinds), Red-winged Blackbirds, Seaside Sparrows, and Song Sparrows. Black Ducks, Clapper Rails, and Willets may also nest.

## SUMMARY

These islands have been neglected by birders for too long because of their inaccessibility as well as distance from mainland areas where there are active ornithologists. In a period of just under forty-eight hours one new county species, two (possibly three) new county breeding records, thirty-seven Osprey nests, and several previously unobserved heronries were found. No gull or tern colonies were seen, however. It is hoped that more interest will be shown in these attractive natural areas which are rich in tidal life and breeding birds. At the same time respect is due to government and private property, but the tidal waters belong to the public.

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## A PAIR OF ROBINS RAISES THREE BROODS

*Hervey Brackbill*

In Larchmont, Baltimore County, in 1970, a pair of Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) raised three broods, bringing off 9 young, apparently, from 13 eggs laid and 12 hatched. In my experience, two broods are the rule for this species in the Baltimore area. Only once before have I seen three raised, and on only one other occasion have I seen a third attempted following two successful nestings (*Bird-Banding* 23:29, 1952).

The 1970 birds were not banded ones. However, the second nest was built only 5 feet from the first, in the same huge bush. And on the day the young left the second nest I saw the male leave that bush and fly to the third-nest tree, where the female then was building. Further, I had visited the first nest so often that the adults came to recognize me and protest vociferously whenever I appeared anywhere near; these protests continued throughout the second and third nestings. The continuing identity of the birds thus is clear.

*First nesting.* The first nest was based 4 feet 9 inches up in a Chinese juniper about 12 feet tall and 12 wide at the top. It was being lined when I found it April 9, and apparently was completed April 10.

Three eggs were laid April 13-15. Two hatched April 27; one never did. One nestling disappeared by the afternoon of May 4. The survivor left the nest May 11, some time before 8:35 a.m., E.S.T.

*Second nesting.* The second nest, based 6 feet 8 inches up in the same juniper and 5 feet west of the first, was begun on May 11 before 8 a.m.--apparently as soon as the young had left the first--and was completed May 12.

Five eggs were laid May 15-19. All hatched May 29-31. One nestling disappeared by June 7. All of the others, apparently, left the nest between 2:35 p.m. June 11 and 10:15 a.m. June 12.

*Third nesting.* The third nest was based 16 feet up in the crown of a silver maple 50 yards east of the second nest. Building was begun June 12 and apparently completed June 13.

On the afternoon of June 19 the nest held 4 eggs, and on June 23 it held 5, so laying presumably was done June 16-20. I last climbed to the nest on July 4 and found 5 young, one of them a great deal smaller than the others. On July 7 one was dead on the ground below the nest,



probably that small one, crowded out by its fellows. From the ground, on the afternoon of July 13, three young were visible in the nest and it is quite possible that the fourth was present but hidden by foliage. On July 14 all, presumably 4, departed.

*Nesting success.* These birds' clutches were 3, 5 and 5. Two, 5 and 5 eggs hatched (92.3% of the eggs laid). One, 4 and 4 young apparently were raised (69.2% of the eggs laid; 75% of the eggs hatched). One egg did not hatch (No. 2 of the first clutch), 2 nestlings disappeared (first and second broods), and one nestling apparently was crowded out of the nest (third brood).

2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore



## SWALLOW-TAILED KITE SEEN AT BLACKWATER REFUGE

*William H. Julian*

A Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) was observed on May 31, 1972, at 11:30 a.m. over the extreme northwest corner of Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Dorchester County, Maryland. The exact road location is the junction of State route 335 and county road Key Wallace Drive.

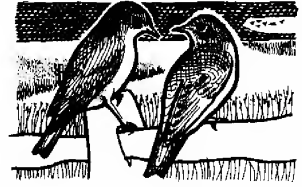
The bird was first spotted by Refuge Manager Larry A. Dunkeson, Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge, Woodbridge, Virginia, and then by the author. The kite was observed soaring at close range and with binoculars for five minutes. I had seen Swallow-tailed Kites while stationed in Louisiana and Florida.

News of the kite was relayed by telephone to observers on the Eastern Shore and in the Baltimore and Washington areas. Several people searched for this rarity on the next few days. Paul DuMont and V. Edwin Unger with a group from the Caroline County Chapter of MOS found it on June 1 a mile or so to the north, and on the next morning it was well seen by Richard A. Rowlett, Wendell Crews, Ken Wheatley and the author.

The only subsequent report was on June 11, when Mrs. Russell Abbott saw and described a bird that I feel was the same individual at her home near Shorters Wharf on the Blackwater River, 6 miles from where the bird was first seen.

This is only the second 20th century record of the Swallow-tailed Kite in Maryland. The other bird was seen over the Pocomoke Swamp on May 10, 1969, by Merrill Cottrell and others (*Maryland Birdlife* 25:97).

Refuge Manager, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge  
Route 1, Box 121, Cambridge 21613



## THE SEASON

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APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 1972

*Chandler S. Robbins*

This proved to be an exciting period in Maryland's ornithological history. This excitement stemmed from a variety of circumstances, including: (1) lingering stray birds that had survived the extraordinarily warm and snowless winter; (2) a good variety of northern finches, some of which remained to record-breaking dates; (3) favorable migration weather on at least one day of each weekend in April and the first half of May; (4) an extraordinary number of rarities; (5) many more exceptionally early or late dates than would have been expected under the weather conditions we experienced; (6) greater observer activity than ever before (including better reporting and documentation); (7) probably the most devastating natural disaster in Maryland's long history; and (8) the documentation of some important bird population changes by means of the Breeding Bird Survey and the Maryland Breeding Bird Censuses.

All three months were cold and wet. Temperatures averaged 1° to 2° below normal in April and May, and 3° to 5° below normal in June under excessively cloudy skies, which produced the coolest June since 1955. Most stations did not have a single 90° day in the whole period. Precipitation in most Divisions of the State was 1 to 2 inches above normal in April and May. June was a different story. Only the 8th, 9th and 12th were rainfree days in Maryland. Rainfall was relatively light during the first half of the month, but well above normal at every station in the second half.

After the arrival of a weak deteriorating cold front on June 16, Marylanders saw very little of either the sun or the moon until ten days later. The cold front remained stalled over the State for three days, bringing light to heavy rain to all Divisions. On the 19th, Hurricane Agnes, which had been churning northward through the Gulf of Mexico, reached the Florida coast below Tallahassee. Overcast skies and then heavy rains quickly spread northward to New England. Maryland received torrential rain on June 21-23, with 75 percent of the total between the afternoon of the 21st and noon the next day. Worst hit was the Piedmont, most of which had a 3-day total of 10 to 14 inches (or 1,100 to 1,400 tons of water per acre). The resulting floods caused complete destruction of bird nests within ten (or more) feet of the ground in all stream valleys, as well as the loss of most ground nests in upland situations.

Table 1. Spring Arrival Dates, 1972

Species	Median 10-yr 1972	Garr	Allie	Wash	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Somr	Wico	Worc
Common Loon	-- 4/12	4/16	4/6	4/23	4/17	5/6	5/6	4/1	4/15	4/4	0	W	0	3/29	4/7	4/4	0	W
Double-cr. Cormorant	-- 4/12	0	0	0	0	5/6	C	4/16	0	4/4	0	3/12	5/2	4/5	5/6	0	0	4/9
Green Heron	4/23 4/15	4/23	4/15	4/29	4/20	4/11	4/15	4/15	4/6	4/13	4/27	5/6	4/16	4/15	4/15	3/11	4/11	4/30
Cattle Egret	-- 4/2	0	0	4/25	0	4/5	0	0	3/21	4/7	4/2	3/29	4/4	0	4/3	3/29	3/26	3/18
Common Egret	-- 4/18	0	0	0	0	0	0	4/25	0	4/16	4/29	5/22	4/18	3/25	3/25	3/25	0	4/30
Snowy Egret	-- 4/16	0	0	0	0	0	5/2	4/24	0	4/16	0	5/6	0	4/15	4/5	3/25	0	4/6
American Bittern	-- 4/10	0	4/9	0	4/26	--	4/16	4/11	3/26	4/10	--	--	--	0	4/3	3/25	0	0
Glossy Ibis	-- 4/22	0	0	0	0	5/6	0	0	0	4/13	6/24	0	5/6	3/31	4/5	3/18	0	4/30
Oldsquaw	-- 4/4	--	4/15	4/4	--	4/4	0	--	4/7	W	--	0	0	W	0	4/4	0	W
Broad-winged Hawk	4/22 4/16	5/6	4/9	4/16	4/17	4/18	4/15	4/14	4/17	4/16	4/5	5/6	0	0	0	0	4/16	0
Common Gallinule	-- 5/6	0	5/6	0	5/12	0	5/1	4/29	5/6	4/16	0	0	--	0	5/6	0	0	0
Semipalmated Plover	-- 5/6	0	5/18	0	4/29	5/6	0	0	0	5/8	0	5/13	5/6	0	5/6	--	0	--
Black-bellied Plover	-- 5/6	0	5/18	0	5/6	5/6	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	--	4/5	4/30	0	--
Spotted Sandpiper	4/30 4/23	4/29	4/14	4/23	4/20	4/25	4/20	4/17	4/17	4/22	0	5/6	4/21	5/6	5/6	--	0	5/6
Solitary Sandpiper	5/2 5/6	5/6	4/24	0	4/12	5/6	5/6	4/16	5/2	4/14	0	5/6	5/6	0	5/6	4/29	5/6	--
Willet	-- 4/14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5/4	0	0	0	4/7	4/7	4/14	0	4/30
Lesser Yellowlegs	5/2 4/6	4/15	4/14	0	3/22	0	3/4	3/11	5/6	4/13	0	--	--	0	4/5	4/3	0	4/6
Pectoral Sandpiper	-- 4/5	0	4/12	0	3/15	5/6	0	4/16	0	4/2	0	0	--	0	4/5	3/25	0	--
Least Sandpiper	-- 5/2	0	6/3	4/26	5/2	0	0	4/29	5/6	4/13	0	5/13	5/6	0	4/29	4/3	0	5/6
Dunlin	-- 5/1	5/29	0	0	5/2	0	0	0	0	4/14	0	5/13	0	5/13	4/5	4/1	0	4/30
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-- 5/6	5/29	5/6	0	5/16	0	0	0	0	5/3	0	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/6	4/3	0	5/6
Laughing Gull	-- 4/15	0	0	0	0	5/6	0	0	3/29	4/13	5/1	4/18	4/24	4/15	4/3	4/1	5/6	3/18
Bonaparte's Gull	-- 4/4	3/22	4/11	0	3/22	4/22	0	4/1	4/11	3/12	0	4/6	0	3/29	0	0	0	4/6
Common Tern	-- 5/6	5/9	5/9	0	0	5/6	0	4/28	0	4/30	0	5/6	0	4/29	5/6	5/20	0	4/30
Least Tern	-- 5/6	0	0	0	0	5/6	0	0	0	4/27	0	5/13	0	5/29	4/29	6/22	0	5/6
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5/4 5/6	0	4/30	5/6	5/3	5/6	5/6	4/30	5/6	5/6	5/10	5/6	5/6	6/24	5/6	5/20	4/29	4/30
Black-billed Cuckoo	5/5 5/5	--	5/1	0	5/6	5/6	5/2	5/5	5/6	5/6	5/5	5/6	0	0	5/3	0	0	--
Chuck-will's-widow	-- 5/6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5/6	4/24	5/22	5/13	5/6	4/29	5/6	0	0	4/30
Whip-poor-will	4/21 4/21	4/29	4/15	0	4/18	4/26	4/19	4/29	4/14	4/14	4/24	4/18	4/19	0	5/6	4/29	4/21	4/30
Common Nighthawk	5/5 5/6	0	5/6	5/20	5/4	5/16	5/7	4/30	4/21	5/13	0	0	5/6	5/6	5/6	0	5/9	5/13
Chimney Swift	4/15 4/15	4/15	4/24	4/15	4/14	4/18	4/20	4/15	4/10	4/9	4/13	4/10	4/14	4/15	4/29	4/29	4/17	4/30
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	4/30 4/29	5/4	5/6	4/29	5/6	4/8	5/1	4/28	4/23	4/24	4/29	4/29	4/20	4/19	5/6	4/19	4/29	4/6
Red-headed Woodpecker	-- 5/6	4/9	5/6	3/19	5/6	5/6	5/27	5/6	5/6	5/13	3/19	5/6	4/3	0	0	5/11	0	5/6
Eastern Kingbird	4/26 4/29	5/5	3/21	5/6	4/29	5/1	4/24	4/18	4/17	4/22	5/6	4/23	4/21	5/6	4/29	4/29	5/2	4/30
Gt. Crested Flycatcher	4/28 4/29	5/5	5/6	5/6	4/29	4/29	4/29	4/20	4/24	4/23	4/29	5/6	4/21	4/30	4/29	4/29	4/27	4/23
Acadian Flycatcher	5/4 5/6	0	0	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/2	5/4	4/27	5/6	--	4/29	--	4/29	--	5/10	4/30
Trail's Flycatcher	-- 5/20	5/6	--	--	5/29	5/29	5/6	5/12	5/29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Least Flycatcher	-- 5/6	5/1	4/25	5/13	5/6	5/6	5/5	5/5	5/6	5/2	5/6	0	C	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Wood Pewee	5/4 5/6	4/29	5/6	5/12	--	5/15	5/6	5/2	5/3	5/6	5/8	5/6	4/27	--	5/6	5/14	5/10	5/14
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-- --	0	0	0	5/13	5/11	0	5/6	5/17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Swallow	-- 4/19	0	4/14	0	4/12	4/18	5/6	4/12	4/20	4/16	4/23	--	4/21	--	5/6	4/15	0	4/30
Rough-winged Swallow	4/14 4/16	4/16	4/14	4/16	4/12	4/24	5/6	4/17	4/8	4/5	0	4/18	4/4	0	4/15	4/29	0	4/30
Barn Swallow	4/8 4/4	3/30	4/9	4/12	3/22	4/5	4/15	4/1	3/17	4/4	4/5	4/9	4/13	4/4	4/15	4/3	4/4	4/30
Cliff Swallow	-- 5/6	5/6	5/6	0	4/26	5/6	5/6	5/4	4/17	5/6	0	5/6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purple Martin	3/27 4/6	5/5	4/11	4/19	3/30	4/21	4/14	3/26	4/3	4/4	4/1	3/31	4/14	4/15	4/3	5/6	4/2	4/6
Blue Jay	4/27 5/6	5/6	5/6	--	5/6	5/6	4/29	4/24	4/7	5/5	4/24	4/6	5/6	4/4	--	--	--	--
House Wren	4/21 4/19	4/18	4/18	4/15	4/19	4/19	4/20	4/12	4/17	4/18	4/29	5/2	4/19	--	4/29	4/16	--	4/23
Long-billed Marsh Wren	-- 5/4	0	5/6	0	5/6	5/6	0	0	4/18	4/22	--	5/6	5/6	--	4/3	4/3	--	4/30
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-- 5/6	0	0	0	0	0	0	5/7	5/2	5/6	0	5/6	0	0	5/6	4/3	0	0
Catbird	4/27 4/26	4/30	4/24	4/16	4/20	4/25	4/19	4/20	4/19	4/24	4/29	4/29	4/27	4/29	4/29	4/26	--	4/29
Brown Thrasher	4/7 4/8	4/15	4/8	4/14	4/1	4/2	4/9	4/2	4/3	4/6	3/5	4/8	4/8	4/15	5/6	4/14	4/19	W
Wood Thrush	4/25 4/23	5/6	5/1	4/29	4/29	4/20	4/19	4/18	4/16	4/20	4/23	5/6	4/19	4/23	4/29	5/6	4/16	4/30
Hermit Thrush	-- 4/12	--	--	--	--	4/19	4/8	4/4	4/3	4/8	--	4/16	4/17	--	--	--	--	4/15
Swainson's Thrush	5/6 5/6	5/6	5/4	0	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/6	4/28	5/6	5/6	0	5/21	0	5/13	5/20	0	0
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-- 5/13	0	5/15	0	0	--	5/6	5/5	5/18	5/13	0	0	0	0	5/6	0	0	5/13

	Median		Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Somr	Wico	Worc
	10-yr	1972																	
Veery	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 4	4/25	5/ 6	4/29	4/28	4/24	--	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	5/13	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4/14	4/14	4/15	4/15	4/16	4/14	4/ 7	1/14	4/ 8	4/ 8	4/12	4/ 9	4/12	4/13	4/15	4/14	4/15	4/ 6	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4/12	4/12	4/16	4/ 9	4/ 5	4/20	4/16	4/ 9	4/ 9	4/ 5	4/16	3/12	--	4/18	--	4/16	W	W	
Water Pipit	--	--	0	0	0	3/22	--	0	3/ 4	4/ 8	--	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	0
Cedar Waxwing	4/24	2/25	--	2/11	2/20	2/25	2/18	2/14	2/26	2/29	1/ 9	2/25	4/10	5/11	3/25	W	0	0	--
Loggerhead Shrike	--	4/ 3	3/21	4/10	0	4/ 2	4/ 3	4/ 9	4/12	3/18	0	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	3/25	4/ 1	0	W
White-eyed Vireo	4/26	4/20	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	4/19	4/20	4/18	4/21	4/16	4/19	5/ 6	4/23	4/16	4/23	4/29	4/16	4/16	4/23
Yellow-throated Vireo	4/28	4/27	0	4/24	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 2	5/ 6	4/23	4/19	4/20	4/23	0	4/21	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/16	4/30
Solitary Vireo	4/26	4/23	5/ 6	4/18	4/23	5/ 6	4/16	4/30	4/21	4/16	4/26	0	0	4/23	0	0	0	0	5/ 6
Red-eyed Vireo	4/28	4/29	5/ 6	5/ 1	4/29	4/29	5/ 2	5/ 1	4/20	4/20	4/20	4/29	5/ 6	4/23	--	4/29	5/ 6	4/16	4/30
Warbling Vireo	5/ 2	4/30	0	4/18	5/ 6	5/ 3	4/29	5/ 6	4/20	4/21	4/29	0	5/23	4/30	5/15	0	0	0	5/ 7
Black-&-white Warbler	4/22	4/22	4/29	5/ 6	--	5/ 3	4/23	4/20	4/18	4/ 8	4/16	4/20	4/10	4/24	5/ 6	4/29	5/ 6	4/10	3/18
Prothonotary Warbler	4/26	4/22	0	5/ 6	0	0	4/20	0	4/15	4/17	5/ 6	0	4/22	4/19	0	4/29	5/ 6	4/16	4/23
Worm-eating Warbler	5/ 2	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 3	--	5/ 3	4/18	4/29	4/29	4/23	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	4/29	5/ 6	4/29	4/30
Golden-winged Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blue-winged Warbler	5/ 3	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/29	4/30	4/24	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/ 6
Tennessee Warbler	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	--	5/ 2	5/ 6	4/30	5/ 4	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nashville Warbler	5/ 3	5/ 4	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/ 4	5/ 3	5/ 6	4/24	4/23	4/21	4/26	4/30	0	0	0	5/ 6	0	0	5/13
Parula Warbler	4/25	4/23	5/ 6	4/23	4/28	5/ 3	4/26	4/29	4/15	4/16	4/19	4/11	4/23	5/ 2	--	4/29	--	4/16	4/16
Yellow Warbler	4/27	4/25	4/29	4/23	5/ 6	5/ 3	4/25	5/ 2	4/17	4/12	4/24	4/29	4/19	4/24	4/23	4/29	4/25	4/27	4/28
Magnolia Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 4	0	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/30	5/ 5	4/29	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/29	0	0	5/ 6
Cape May Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	0	5/ 3	5/ 2	5/ 6	4/30	4/24	5/ 6	5/ 5	0	5/ 7	0	--	0	0	5/ 6
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 2	5/ 6	4/29	4/29	4/25	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	0	5/13
Myrtle Warbler	4/16	4/14	4/16	--	4/16	4/ 8	4/23	4/14	4/15	4/ 9	4/16	4/ 1	4/ 8	W	W	W	4/11	W	W
Black-thr.Green Warbler	5/ 2	5/ 4	5/ 4	5/ 6	--	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/29	4/23	4/16	4/29	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	0	4/29	5/ 6
Cerulean Warbler	5/ 3	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 1	0	5/ 3	4/27	5/ 6	4/20	5/ 1	4/30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4/30
Blackburnian Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 3	4/26	5/ 6	4/29	5/ 3	5/ 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow-throated Warbler	4/19	4/16	0	0	0	0	0	0	4/23	5/ 4	4/ 4	4/16	0	4/27	4/16	4/15	0	5/ 6	4/ 6
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 2	4/30	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13	0	--	0	--	0	5/13
Bay-breasted Warbler	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	0	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 7	5/ 5	5/ 6	0	0	5/12	0	0	0	0	5/13
Blackpoll Warbler	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	--	--	--	1/30	5/ 6	4/30	4/30	5/ 2	5/ 5	0	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	0	5/ 7	5/ 7
Prairie Warbler	4/25	4/23	5/ 6	4/23	0	4/29	5/ 6	4/20	4/20	4/16	4/20	--	4/26	4/28	4/23	4/29	4/19	--	4/23
Palm Warbler	4/18	4/ 8	0	0	0	0	4/11	4/15	4/ 8	4/ 6	4/ 5	0	4/ 8	0	--	--	0	0	--
Ovenbird	4/27	4/24	5/ 3	4/26	5/ 6	4/29	4/23	4/24	4/25	4/16	4/27	4/16	--	4/24	--	4/15	4/16	4/16	4/30
Northern Waterthrush	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/18	4/30	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/23	4/26	4/27	5/13	0	5/13	0	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	4/30
Louisiana Waterthrush	4/14	4/12	5/ 6	4/ 9	4/16	4/12	4/25	4/13	4/ 2	4/ 7	4/16	4/ 1	--	4/11	4/29	0	--	4/10	4/16
Kentucky Warbler	5/ 3	5/ 3	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/ 5	5/ 3	4/29	5/ 5	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/24	--	4/29	4/29	4/29	4/29
Yellowthroat	4/21	4/21	5/ 3	4/30	4/29	4/21	4/23	4/20	4/19	4/14	4/10	4/21	4/30	4/ 6	4/29	4/15	4/14	4/14	4/23
Yellow-breasted Chat	5/ 2	4/30	--	4/30	5/20	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 1	4/24	4/29	4/25	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 5	--	4/29	4/25	4/29	--
Hooded Warbler	4/30	5/ 3	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 6	4/29	4/30	4/16	4/19	4/23	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	4/29	4/29
Wilson's Warbler	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 4	0	--	5/ 7	5/12	5/13	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Warbler	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 4	5/ 6	0	--	5/ 5	5/11	5/ 2	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/13	5/ 6	5/16	0	0	0	0	0
American Redstart	4/29	5/ 1	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/29	5/ 1	5/ 2	4/17	4/16	4/16	4/29	5/21	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	4/30	--	4/15
Bobolink	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/12	0	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 2	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6
Orchard Oriole	5/ 2	4/30	5/10	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 1	5/ 6	4/23	4/24	5/ 2	4/29	4/19	4/20	4/29	4/29	4/20	0	5/13
Baltimore Oriole	4/30	4/28	4/19	4/24	4/29	5/ 3	4/20	4/24	4/15	4/26	4/28	4/29	5/ 6	4/30	0	5/ 6	0	4/27	5/13
Scarlet Tanager	4/28	4/30	5/ 6	4/26	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/23	5/ 1	4/16	4/17	4/20	4/29	5/ 6	4/30	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/27	4/30
Summer Tanager	5/ 3	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	4/27	5/ 1	5/ 6	5/13	5/13	5/ 2	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/13
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/ 4	5/ 1	5/ 1	4/24	4/28	4/25	4/24	5/ 3	4/27	5/ 1	4/29	5/ 6	5/ 8	5/ 6	0	0	0	5/ 6	5/13
Blue Grosbeak	4/30	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	4/21	0	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/11	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/19	--	4/29	--	5/ 3	--
Indigo Bunting	5/ 1	5/ 1	5/ 6	5/ 1	4/20	5/ 6	5/ 1	5/ 1	4/17	4/29	4/27	4/28	5/ 6	4/30	4/22	5/ 6	4/30	5/ 6	5/13
Grasshopper Sparrow	4/30	4/29	4/16	5/ 4	5/ 6	4/29	5/ 6	4/ 3	4/18	4/18	4/ 4	5/ 4	5/ 6	4/23	--	4/29	--	4/24	4/30
Vesper Sparrow	3/30	4/ 5	3/21	4/ 6	--	--	4/24	--	3/12	4/ 2	3/28	4/ 5	--	4/25	0	0	0	0	4/ 9
Chipping Sparrow	--	4/ 3	--	4/ 7	--	--	--	--	4/ 2	4/ 3	4/ 4	4/ 2	--	4/ 1	4/ 3	4/ 3	4/ 2	--	--
White-crowned Sparrow	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/22	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/30	W	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/10	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0
Swamp Sparrow	--	4/22	4/25	--	--	4/29	4/23	4/21	4/ 1	3/29	4/16	4/29	4/29	W	W	W	4/15	--	--

Fewer than 5 percent of the bridges in the Maryland Piedmont were drivable even after the debris had been removed. Damage to bridges and highways alone was estimated at over \$30,000,000.

More than five thousand migration dates have been condensed into Tables 1 and 2, which show the first and last dates on which the more common species were found in 17 of Maryland's 23 counties. The counties are arranged from northwest to southeast. Special thanks are extended to those observers who summarized their records into easily usable form; even though most people submitted well-organized summaries, these occupied over 400 pages, not counting the State-wide Bird Count reports of May 6.

Regrettably, it is not practical to give credit for individual records in the tables. All record-breaking dates are cited in the text, together with the names of one or more of the observers. The major contributors for each county are listed below. Thanks are expressed to the unnamed individuals as well, because collectively they have greatly added to the value of the compilation:

Garrett County--Mrs. Frances Pope; Allegheny--James Paulus, Richard Rowlett; Washington--Daniel Boone, Mrs. Alice B. Mallonee, Richard Rowlett; Frederick--Dr. John W. Richards, Paul Woodward, Richard Rowlett; Baltimore City and County--C. Haven Kolb, Mrs. Alice Kaestner, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bohanan, Mrs. Shirley Geddes; Howard--Mrs. Dorothy Rauth, Mrs. Jo Solem, George B. Chase, Mrs. Shirley Hobbs, Mrs. Rosamond Munro; Montgomery--Paul Woodward, Paul DuMont, Dr. Robert Pyle, Robert W. Warfield, Herbert E. Douglas, Richard Rowlett; Prince Georges--Herbert E. Douglas, Kathleen Klimkiewicz, Danny Bystrak, John H. Fales; Anne Arundel; Prof. Harold and Hal Wierenga, Mrs. Rena Bishop, Danny Bystrak, Mrs. Ellen Gizzarelli, William L. Murphy, Paul DuMont; Calvert--John H. Fales, Chandler S. Robbins; Kent--Mr. (compiler) and Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, Mrs. Margery Plymire, Roland Roth; Caroline--Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Marvin Hewitt, Mrs. Ethel Engle, Mrs. Alicia Knotts (compiler); Talbot--Jan Reese, Harry T. Armistead; Dorchester--Harry T. Armistead; Somerset--Mrs. Gladys Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vaughn, Elizabeth Slater, Mrs. Frances Pope; Wicomico--Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vaughn, Samuel H. Dyke; Worcester--Richard Rowlett, Charles Vaughn, Samuel H. Dyke, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bohanan, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Bryan, Charles Hills, Donald Messersmith.

Loons. Although Common Loons have been seen in Maryland in every month except August, the mid-summer birds generally are cripples. Stragglers remained this spring in two Lower Eastern Shore counties almost to the end of May (see Table 1), and in Talbot County, Jan Reese saw 4 as late as June 26. A single bird seen flying over Baltimore County on June 8 by David Holmes and Taylor McLean established a new late departure date for spring transients. Another record-breaker was a Red-throated Loon seen at Assateague Island on May 30 by Richard Rowlett.

Shearwaters, Petrels, Gannets and Cormorants. Richard Rowlett spent many patient hours scanning stormy seas for pelagic birds and was well

rewarded for his efforts. On May 9 a rapidly moving low pressure area moved off the Maryland coast at dawn; 40 m.p.h. northeast winds changed quickly to northwest, but the sea remained rough and tides remained high all day. Two Greater Shearwaters (1 at 1:15 p.m., 1 at 6 p.m.) seen between one-fourth and one-half mile off the mouth of Ocean City inlet tied the earliest State record. Eleven Gannets also were counted. Rowlett spent the morning of May 14 aboard a commercial sport fishing boat anchored 5 miles east of Ocean City. Pelagic birds were few, but choice: 1 Wilson's Petrel (tying the State arrival date), 5 late Gannets, and 1 exceedingly late Great Cormorant in full breeding plumage with white throat and flank patches, seen within 100 feet of the boat. As a Low approached from the southwest, the weather worsened, the wind rose to 40 m.p.h. or more and the sea became very rough. Rowlett continued his observations from the Ocean City jetty, and between 5:30 p.m. and dark he saw 1 Greater and 4 Sooty Shearwaters, all about one-fourth mile off the mouth of the inlet. (See further comments under Jaegers and Terns.)

Cattle Egrets. These egrets were found in all ten Eastern Shore counties, and also in six counties west of the Bay, including Washington County where they were found for the first time (Daniel Boone). A comparison of Table 1 with the arrival table for 1971 shows that the 1972 arrival dates were earlier than those of 1971 in every county (medians April 2 and April 26). Note that the April 2 median date for 1972 is six days earlier than the very earliest State record as of 1967 (Robbins and Van Velzen, Field List of the Birds of Maryland, *Maryland Avifauna* 2, 1968).

Other Herons and Egrets. Table 1 shows that the Common and Snowy Egrets were found in most of the Eastern Shore counties. Little Blue Herons, on the other hand, were not seen away from the coast except on the May 6 State-wide Bird Count. It would be interesting to know where 2 Snowy Egrets that Dr. Walden Pell found on the Elkton Breeding Bird Survey route on June 16 were nesting; this species is rarely found far from its breeding colonies in mid-June. Other unusual sightings of Snowy Egrets were made at Silver Spring on Apr. 24 (Robert Warfield) and in Howard County on May 2 (Dorothy Rauth). Jan Reese reports that Louisiana Herons as well as Cattle Egrets are now breeding in Queen Annes County--a noteworthy range extension. This may account for Harry Armistead's first observation of the Louisiana at his parents' home in Bellevue, Talbot County, Apr. 7 (Harry's 217th species there). The only Louisiana Heron sighting west of the Bay was over the Potomac River near Blockhouse Point in Montgomery County on May 8--the first spring record for the Piedmont (Rowlett). In Dorchester County, Harry Armistead had new high spring counts for the Little Blue, Louisiana, Common and Snowy Egrets, American Bittern and Glossy Ibis (see *Maryland Birdlife* 28: 48 and *Atlantic Naturalist* 27: 120). A high count of 9 Yellow-crowned Night Herons was obtained by Armistead on May 28 in the Bloodworth Island complex, and a far western individual was found by Rowlett just below the Paw Paw railroad tunnel on May 15.

Ibises. Glossy Ibis also arrived early and in spectacular numbers, but were not as widespread as the Cattle Egrets. As many as 50 flew



Table 2. Spring Departure Dates, 1972

Species	Median		Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Somr	Wico	Worc
	10-yr	1972																	
Common Loon	5/ 9	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 6	4/23	--	6/ 8	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/19	5/18	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/29	--	0	5/30
Horned Grebe	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/15	4/23	4/25	--	0	5/21	5/ 6	5/23	4/29	4/10	--	6/ 1	5/29	--	--	5/13
Pied-billed Grebe	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	4/27	5/ 6	5/13	--	5/ 6	5/ 1	--	5/ 6	--	--	5/20
Double-cr. Cormorant	--	5/15	0	0	0	0	5/ 6	0	--	0	5/15	0	5/13	5/ 2	6/ 5	5/29	0	0	5/30
American Bittern	--	5/13	0	--	0	--	--	--	5/16	5/16	5/23	--	--	--	0	5/ 6	--	0	5/13
Whistling Swan	4/21	5/ 2	0	4/ 1	--	5/12	3/26	3/19	3/19	5/12	5/ 8	4/29	5/13	4/27	5/ 6	5/13	--	--	--
Canada Goose	4/30	5/ 6	5/ 6	3/15	--	3/22	4/30	3/21	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13	4/18	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13	--	5/ 6	5/13
Pintail	--	5/13	0	--	0	0	--	--	4/ 9	5/ 6	5/23	--	5/13	0	--	5/14	--	--	--
Green-winged Teal	--	4/24	5/ 6	--	0	4/20	--	0	4/28	4/ 6	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	4/17	4/15	5/14	4/15	--	--
Blue-winged Teal	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 1	--	5/16	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/18	5/ 6	5/16	--	5/ 6	4/24	--	5/13	4/16	--	5/13
American Widgeon	--	4/15	5/ 6	4/15	--	4/12	--	4/15	3/26	4/13	5/13	--	5/13	0	--	5/13	--	--	--
Shoveler	--	4/15	5/ 6	3/19	0	0	0	0	3/26	5/ 4	4/21	0	5/13	--	--	4/15	4/ 4	0	5/ 9
Redhead	--	4/21	--	3/25	0	--	--	5/ 6	3/26	0	4/21	0	5/ 6	0	--	0	--	0	--
Ring-necked Duck	--	4/17	4/25	3/19	0	3/19	--	3/20	5/24	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	--	0	--	0	0	4/ 9
Canvasback	--	4/20	5/ 6	4/26	0	3/19	--	3/ 9	3/24	4/29	5/13	4/15	5/ 6	0	4/ 7	5/ 6	--	0	4/ 9
Lesser Scaup	--	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 9	--	5/ 7	4/17	4/15	3/26	5/ 6	5/13	4/15	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/ 4	0	5/13
Common Goldeneye	--	5/ 6	--	2/10	0	4/ 5	--	0	3/24	5/ 6	5/13	--	5/ 6	--	--	5/13	4/ 3	0	5/13
Bufflehead	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/16	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/21	4/20	4/16	5/13	3/18	5/ 6	4/17	5/ 6	--	5/20	0	5/13
Oldsquaw	--	4/22	4/22	4/15	--	4/15	4/15	0	--	--	5/13	--	0	0	5/ 6	0	--	0	5/ 7
Ruddy Duck	--	4/30	4/25	--	0	0	4/24	0	0	4/ 6	5/13	0	5/13	0	4/15	5/ 6	0	0	5/13
White-winged Scoter	--	4/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4/15	4/22	0	5/13	0	4/15	5/ 6	0	0	5/14
Hooded Merganser	--	5/10	--	0	--	4/12	--	0	5/13	4/15	5/13	0	5/ 6	0	0	5/14	0	0	--
Red-breasted Merganser	--	5/ 6	0	4/27	4/ 9	5/10	--	0	5/ 7	4/23	5/18	0	0	0	5/ 6	5/28	4/ 1	0	5/30
Common Merganser	--	4/23	0	3/16	0	4/ 3	0	5/ 6	4/ 9	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/10	5/ 6	0	4/ 5	0	0	0
Marsh Hawk	--	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	4/16	5/12	4/18	4/18	5/13	4/15	--	--	--	5/ 6	4/ 4	5/13	5/17	--	5/13
American Coot	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	5/10	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/12	5/18	4/26	5/ 6	5/11	4/15	5/ 6	--	--	5/13
Semipalmated Plover	--	6/ 2	0	6/ 3	0	6/ 6	--	0	0	0	6/ 1	0	--	--	0	5/14	6/11	0	5/30
Black-bellied Plover	--	5/14	0	5/18	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	0	5/16	0	0	0	5/13	5/14	--	0	5/30
Common Snipe	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/29	5/ 6	5/13	--	5/ 6	4/14	4/22	4/29	4/ 4	--	5/13
Spotted Sandpiper	--	5/13	5/28	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/23	5/16	5/ 6	6/ 1	5/16	5/23	0	5/ 6	5/22	5/ 6	5/13	5/21	0	5/14
Solitary Sandpiper	--	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 9	0	5/16	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/13	5/22	5/13	0	5/13	5/ 6	0	5/14	0	5/ 6	5/14
Greater Yellowlegs	--	5/19	0	5/ 6	0	5/10	6/ 5	--	6/14	5/13	5/18	0	--	--	5/13	6/ 3	6/11	0	5/20
Lesser Yellowlegs	--	5/14	--	4/30	0	5/16	0	--	6/ 1	5/13	5/16	0	5/13	5/ 6	0	5/30	5/12	0	5/14
Pectoral Sandpiper	--	5/ 9	0	4/12	0	5/12	5/ 6	0	--	0	5/13	0	0	5/ 6	0	5/14	--	0	--
Least Sandpiper	--	6/ 1	0	6/ 6	--	5/30	0	0	6/ 3	--	6/ 1	0	5/13	5/ 6	0	6/ 3	6/11	0	5/20
Dunlin	--	5/29	5/29	0	0	5/18	0	0	0	0	6/ 1	0	5/13	0	5/13	5/29	6/11	0	5/30
Short-billed Dowitcher	--	5/30	0	5/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	5/18	0	0	0	0	5/14	6/11	0	5/30
Semipalmated Sandpiper	--	6/ 3	5/29	6/22	0	6/13	0	0	0	0	6/ 1	0	--	--	6/ 5	5/29	6/11	0	5/30
Gt. Blk-backed Gull	--	5/13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	5/13	0	5/13	4/17	6/ 5	5/13	4/ 2	0	5/30
Ring-billed Gull	--	5/ 9	5/ 6	5/ 3	0	5/ 3	4/23	--	5/12	5/ 6	5/13	5/ 6	5/13	5/ 6	6/ 5	5/13	5/21	0	5/30
Bonaparte's Gull	--	4/23	--	4/15	0	4/12	4/18	0	4/28	4/18	6/12	0	--	0	5/ 6	0	0	0	5/13
Common Tern	--	5/10	0	6/16	0	0	5/ 6	0	0	0	5/13	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/13	--	0	--
Black-billed Cuckoo	--	5/13	--	6/18	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/27	5/ 6	5/13	5/21	5/22	5/ 6	0	0	5/ 6	0	0	5/20
Common Nighthawk	--	5/21	0	--	--	--	--	--	5/21	5/17	5/28	0	0	--	--	5/30	0	--	5/20
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4/24	4/27	4/18	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	4/16	5/ 6	5/27	5/13	--	--	4/13	4/ 7	--	5/ 6	--	4/ 9
Tree Swallow	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/10	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 9	5/ 6	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/14	--	5/23	--	5/ 6	5/13



	Median		Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Somr	Wico	Worc
	10-yr	1972																	
Blue Jay	5/14	5/ 6	5/31	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13	5/ 6	5/13	5/20	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	--	5/10	--	--
Red-breasted Nuthatch	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	0	0	5/13	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	4/16	0	0	0
Brown Creeper	4/22	4/22	--	4/18	4/23	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/14	5/ 2	4/20	5/ 6	4/16	5/ 6	4/ 3	4/ 8	4/ 3	--	--	4/30
Winter Wren	--	4/25	5/ 6	4/26	--	4/29	5/ 6	--	4/23	4/24	5/ 6	4/ 9	--	4/18	3/30	--	--	--	--
Hermit Thrush	4/28	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/29	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/16	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/ 7	4/ 7	--	--	4/30
Svainson's Thrush	5/24	5/20	--	5/15	0	--	5/16	5/18	5/29	5/31	5/16	5/21	--	5/21	--	5/14	5/20	--	--
Gray-cheeked Thrush	--	5/24	0	--	0	0	5/27	5/21	5/30	6/ 1	5/15	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	5/13
Veery	5/17	5/21	5/29	--	0	--	5/27	5/21	--	6/ 1	5/18	5/21	0	5/16	0	--	0	0	5/20
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4/11	4/16	4/16	5/ 6	4/16	4/12	4/16	4/23	4/18	4/17	4/12	4/16	4/28	--	4/ 7	4/15	--	--	4/15
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	--	5/ 3	--	4/30
Water Pipit	--	5/ 6	0	0	0	5/12	5/ 6	0	5/13	--	5/ 6	0	0	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0
Cedar Waxwing	--	5/19	5/29	5/ 6	5/19	5/12	5/ 6	6/ 1	5/22	5/28	5/19	5/22	5/21	5/11	--	--	5/17	--	5/13
Solitary Vireo	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	5/12	5/13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5/13
Golden-winged Warbler	--	5/ 6	5/31	5/ 6	--	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 6	5/13	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	0
Blue-winged Warbler	--	5/13	0	--	6/11	--	--	5/ 7	5/24	5/26	5/13	--	--	5/ 8	0	--	0	--	5/13
Tennessee Warbler	--	5/15	5/ 6	5/15	6/ 4	5/12	5/12	5/18	5/17	5/26	5/13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nashville Warbler	--	5/12	5/ 6	5/15	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 9	5/13	--	0	0	0	5/14	0	0	5/13
Magnolia Warbler	5/19	5/23	5/28	5/15	0	5/29	5/12	5/23	5/24	6/ 2	5/21	5/13	--	6/ 2	--	--	0	0	5/13
Cape May Warbler	5/10	5/14	5/ 6	5/15	0	5/12	--	5/17	5/12	5/18	5/13	--	0	--	0	5/14	0	0	--
Blk-thr. Blue Warbler	5/14	5/14	6/13	5/15	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/21	6/ 3	5/19	--	--	5/18	0	5/14	0	0	5/13
Myrtle Warbler	5/10	5/12	5/ 6	5/15	5/ 6	5/12	5/13	5/18	5/17	5/18	5/16	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	--	5/13	5/10	5/ 6	5/14
Blk-thr. Green Warbler	5/11	5/11	6/13	5/15	--	5/29	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/25	5/24	5/19	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	0	--	5/ 6
Blackburnian Warbler	--	5/14	6/13	5/15	5/ 6	5/12	5/ 6	5/18	5/12	5/21	5/18	5/13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/13	5/14	6/13	--	5/ 6	--	5/13	--	5/24	5/25	5/19	--	5/13	0	0	5/14	0	0	5/13
Bay-breasted Warbler	--	5/14	--	5/15	0	5/29	5/12	5/12	5/20	5/21	5/13	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	5/13
Blackpoll Warbler	5/28	5/29	0	5/15	5/24	5/29	5/16	5/29	5/26	6/ 3	5/31	6/ 6	0	5/29	5/29	6/ 3	0	--	5/28
Palm Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	--	4/23	5/ 6	4/29	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	0	--	--	0	0	5/ 6
Ovenbird	--	5/29	6/13	--	6/ 4	--	5/27	5/24	5/29	5/29	--	--	--	--	--	5/21	--	--	--
Northern Waterthrush	5/17	5/18	--	5/19	5/ 6	5/12	--	5/24	5/26	6/ 1	5/19	5/13	0	5/17	0	5/13	5/12	--	5/20
Wilson's Warbler	--	5/22	--	5/ 6	0	5/29	--	5/17	5/29	5/26	5/19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Warbler	5/20	5/28	5/28	--	0	5/29	--	5/28	5/23	5/29	5/29	5/28	--	5/21	0	0	0	0	0
American Redstart	--	5/27	6/13	--	6/ 4	--	5/31	5/24	5/26	6/ 5	5/13	5/28	5/31	6/ 1	--	5/13	5/21	--	--
Bobolink	5/16	5/15	6/13	--	5/12	0	5/15	5/27	5/30	5/12	5/18	--	0	--	0	5/13	--	0	5/14
Rusty Blackbird	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 1	--	--	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13	--	5/13	--	4/ 8	4/ 5	--	--	5/13
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/12	5/18	6/13	5/10	5/ 9	5/13	5/13	5/18	--	5/26	5/18	5/24	--	5/17	0	0	0	--	5/28
Evening Grosbeak	5/ 6	5/12	5/23	5/ 6	6/ 4	5/16	5/17	5/ 7	5/12	5/28	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 8	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/13
Purple Finch	5/ 3	5/ 8	--	5/ 6	5/10	5/15	5/12	5/ 7	5/12	5/13	5/13	4/16	5/13	5/ 6	4/ 8	--	--	4/23	--
House Finch	--	5/ 6	0	0	--	4/ 4	5/ 6	4/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/14	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0	--
Common Redpoll	--	3/ 8	3/ 5	4/ 8	3/ 4	0	3/21	2/22	3/31	3/11	2/23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pine Siskin	--	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/19	5/15	5/13	5/ 7	5/11	4/30	5/ 6	5/10	4/ 1	--	--	5/ 6	5/13
White-winged Crossbill	--	4/30	0	5/ 6	0	0	4/30	0	3/23	1/28	5/ 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Savannah Sparrow	5/ 6	5/12	6/13	--	--	5/12	5/ 6	5/23	5/12	5/13	5/15	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/29	5/13	5/ 6	--	5/13
Slate-colored Junco	5/ 1	4/26	5/ 6	4/18	5/ 6	4/27	5/ 6	4/29	4/30	4/26	5/ 6	4/18	4/20	5/ 6	4/15	4/15	4/17	4/14	--
Tree Sparrow	--	4/ 6	5/ 6	4/ 6	--	--	2/24	3/15	--	--	4/16	3/18	--	4/21	0	0	0	0	0
White-crowned Sparrow	5/13	5/ 9	--	5/15	5/16	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 9	5/13	0	0	0	0	0
White-throated Sparrow	5/14	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 8	5/13	5/12	5/ 6	4/14	5/17	5/13	5/ 4	5/ 8	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/12	5/19	5/15
Fox Sparrow	4/ 4	4/ 6	0	3/29	3/21	4/13	3/29	4/13	4/14	4/16	4/17	3/12	--	--	--	--	3/12	--	--
Swamp Sparrow	5/ 7	5/14	6/13	5/15	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/14	5/24	5/29	5/16	4/29	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/30	5/14	5/13	--	5/14

over St. Michaels on June 5 (Jan Reese), and smaller numbers were encountered as far north as Elkton (2 on May 13 by Charles Hills) and Baltimore (a flock of 33 on May 5 by R. Taylor McLean). A flock of 5 White Ibis appeared at Hughes Hollow near Seneca on June 15 (Harvey Nelsen *vide* Paul G. DuMont); one immature was seen at Lilypons in Frederick County on June 25 (Rowlett); and another individual was sighted at Carroll Island in Baltimore County on June 26 (Dr. Prescott Ward). There are only four previous Maryland records for the White Ibis: one in May, the others in August.

Swans, Geese and Ducks. There were too many late reports of Whistling Swans. All reports later than May 13 were omitted from Table 2 because of the liklihood that they were either cripples, summer strays, or misidentified Mute Swans. Now that the introduced Mute Swan is increasing so rapidly on Maryland's Eastern Shore, it is not safe to assume that a lone swan anywhere in the State is a Whistling. Late departure dates for ducks included: a Shoveler at Remington Farms in Kent County on May 13 (Charles Hills), a Ring-necked Duck in Montgomery County on May 24 and another, a summer vagrant, in the Pocomoke River near Pocomoke City on June 17 (Rowlett); and a Common Goldeneye at Bennett Point, Queen Annes County on May 29 (Jan Reese). Stormy weather approaching from the west interrupted an Oldsquaw migration and precipitated small numbers of birds in several counties on Apr. 4. This is the first season that Oldsquaws have been reported from all four western counties; in fact, they were seen in April in all counties west of the Fall Line except Carroll and Howard.

Hawks and Eagles. Departure dates for Rough-legged Hawks were Apr. 1 in Somerset County (Charles Vaughn), Apr. 3 in Dorchester County (Armistead), and Apr. 14 at Sandy Point (Hal Wierenga). An immature Golden Eagle was still at Blackwater Refuge on May 6 and June 3 (Armistead), as were 3 adult and 3 immature Balds. Bald Eagles were also sighted in late May and early June in Talbot and Queen Annes Counties (Reese). Armistead conducted a count of active Osprey nests on the southern Dorchester County islands and located 37 pairs: 21 on Bloodworth Island, 4 each on Adam and Holland, 2 each on Spring and Northeast, and 4 in the Bishop's Head area. He also found 7 pairs nesting within sight of his family's property at Bellevue in Talbot County. Definite counts of nesting birds of prey are especially valuable. We wish more observers would engage in such projects.

Rails and Gallinules. Harry and Liz Armistead recorded more than their share (74) of the rails that were tallied on the State-wide Bird Count on May 6 (see *Maryland Birdlife* 28: 49), including all 13 of the Black Rails that were found. These, of course, were in the Elliott Island marshes. Harry Armistead also found Clapper Rails to be common summer residents on southern Dorchester County islands--including the middle of the impact area on Bloodworth. Common Gallinules are rarely reported from more than one or two of the inland counties; but this spring they were found in Allegany (James Paulus), Frederick and Montgomery (Rowlett), and Howard (Mrs. Jo Solem) Counties as well as those bordering tidewater.

Oystercatchers, Plovers. Between 2 and 5 American Oystercatchers were present on Adam and Holland Islands in southern Dorchester County, day and night, May 27-29, providing the first Maryland record away from the coast (Harry Armistead). At the north tip of Assateague Island on May 30, Rowlett counted not only 22 oystercatchers, but unprecedented totals of 85 Piping and 2 Wilson's Plovers.

Sandpipers. The number of sandpiper reports from inland localities in spring was without equal. These reports resulted from a combination of favorable water levels, late departures for the north, and extra activity on the part of observers. A real rarity for Talbot County was a Whimbrel that flew over the Armistead property near Bellevue on May 15 (Harry Armistead). Two early Willets were in the Elliott Island marshes on Apr. 7 (Armistead), and singles were: in Talbot County on Apr. 15 and June 9 (Jan Reese), at Kent Narrows on May 29 and Kent Point on May 30 (Reese), at Sandy Point State Park on May 4, 9, and 18 (Prof. Harold and Hal Wierenga), and on Agnes Day, June 22 above Lock 75 on the C & O Canal near Old Town (Jim Paulus). Also unusual for the mud flats above Lock 75 were 54 Least and 10 Semiplumbed Sandpipers on June 3, and a Short-billed Dowitcher on May 31 (Paulus). The White-rumped Sandpiper is rarely seen in Maryland in spring--especially at inland locations; 3 were spotted in a plowed field near the Pocomoke Swamp west of Berlin on May 14 (MOS Convention field trip), singles were at Sandy Point on May 15, 16, and 31 (Wierengas), and 3 were sighted at Hughes Hollow near Seneca on June 3 (Paul Woodward). A Stilt Sandpiper in breeding plumage observed at Lilypons in Frederick County is only the fifth of its species to be identified in Maryland in spring (Woodward). Late departures of note included 8 Purple Sandpipers at Ocean City Inlet on May 30 (Rowlett), Least Sandpiper on June 6 and Semipalmated Sandpiper on June 22 at Old Town (Paulus), a Western Sandpiper at Sandy Point on June 1 (Hal Wierenga), and a Greater Yellowlegs at Hughes Hollow on June 14 (Woodward). In the high count category were 130 Willets, 325 Knots and 450 Ruddy Turnstones at Assateague Island on May 30 (Rowlett). Seven American Avocets were at Blackwater Refuge on May 17 (C. R. Ellis and Guy Willey).

Jaegers and Gulls. On May 14 Rowlett saw 2 Parasitic Jaegers 5 miles off Ocean City in the morning, and 3 Parasitics and a possible Pomarine from the Inlet during the afternoon storm. It was an excellent season for the more unusual gulls. The adult Glaucous Gull at Chestertown remained to Apr. 24 (Ruth Carroll); a second-year Iceland was seen near Sandy Point State Park on Apr. 16 (Paul DuMont); a Lesser Black-backed was carefully observed on the 7th Street flats at Ocean City on Apr. 3 (Terry Moore); and an immature Little Gull was found at Ocean City Inlet on May 9 (Rowlett). The many inland reports of Bonaparte's Gulls reflected either an enormous increase in birds migrating northward over our State, or a big increase in observer effort. Note in Table 1 that Bonaparte's were seen in 6 counties that have no bay or ocean frontage; the best inland counts were 250 at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on Apr. 11 and 60 there on Apr. 18 (Danny Bystrak), and 170 on the Potomac at Old Town on Apr. 15 (Paulus). A Bonaparte's in immature plumage was found at the east end of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge

on the very late date of June 15 (Hal Wierenga). As many as 40 Great Black-backed Gulls were still in Talbot County on June 5 (Reese).

Terns and Skimmers. The Roseate, one of Maryland's rarest terns, was sighted on May 9 in Ocean City Inlet (2 birds), and 2 Cabot's Terns and a cloud of 2700 Common Terns were feeding in the Inlet at 6 p.m. on May 14 (Rowlett). Two Royal Terns were found as far up the Bay as Talbot County, May 29 (Reese), and a Black Skimmer as far up as Sandy Point, May 14 (Wierenga). Late strays included a Common Tern at Old Town in Allegany County on June 16 (Paulus) and a late (or more likely early fall) Black Tern on June 30 at Bellevue (Armistead).

Owls, Goatsuckers. A Short-eared Owl that performed courtship-type flights and dive-bombed Hal Wierenga and his tape recorder gave every indication of being on breeding territory near Germantown on June 7, 8, and 10; however, neither Wierenga, Robert Gelhard, nor Kathy Klimkiewicz could find a nest or young. There is no previous record of the Short-ear in summer in the Maryland Piedmont. At Cranesville Bog in Garrett County, Rowlett noted 3 Saw-whet Owls calling all night on June 4-5. The northernmost reports of Chuck-will's-widows came from Greenbelt Park on May 6 and Piney Neck in Kent County on May 13 (both by Charles Hills).

Hummingbirds. In 1971 there were only two April reports of hummingbirds in Maryland. In 1972, however, the median arrival date was Apr. 29, and there were sightings in five counties on or before Apr. 20. The first bird, on Apr. 6 in the Pocomoke Swamp below Snow Hill, broke the State arrival record by one day (Rowlett). The next was a male seen in Baltimore on Apr. 8, a snowy day (Elizabeth Simon). The other early reports were all on the lower Eastern Shore: Apr. 19 and 20 in Talbot County (Erica Woodman, Harry Armistead), Apr. 19 at Irish Grove Sanctuary (Gladys Cole), and Apr. 20 at Tanyard (Ethel Engle).

Flycatchers. The only Yellow-bellied Flycatchers seen in Maryland this spring were 2 west of Hancock on June 4 (Paul DuMont) and 1 at Mt. Nebo Wildlife Area in Garrett County on June 5 (Rowlett); the latter is only one day short of the State record for a late departure. Bruce Beehler found an empty nest of the Traill's Flycatcher ("fitz-bew" song type) at Lake Roland just outside the Baltimore City limits on June 12; 3 days later it contained 3 eggs. This appears to be the first Baltimore County nest of this species to have been found. The only Coastal Plain report of a Traill's Flycatcher was from Piscataway Park in Prince Georges County, where one was banded by Kathy Klimkiewicz on May 29. In Garrett County, Richard Rowlett counted 15 on June 5, including one of the "wee-be-o" song type. Olive-sided Flycatchers were sighted as follows: 1 in Montgomery County on May 6, 1 in Baltimore on May 11 (Brian White), 1 at Rossmoor Leisure World in Montgomery County on May 13 (Sally and Dick Rule), 3 in Catoctin Mountain Park above Thurmont on May 13 (Ruth and John Richards), and 1 at Oxon Hill on May 17 (Herbert Douglas).

Ravens. Unusual for so late in the season were 4 Common Ravens in Gambrill State Park, Catoctin Mountain, on May 6 (Richard Rowlett and Lloyd Logan). A May 13 record by Dr. Fred Evenden may relate to some of

these same individuals. In the next two counties to the west, 3 birds were seen on June 4 west of Hancock (DuMont), and 1 or more at the south point of Town Hill on June 14 (Paulus).

Nuthatches, Wrens. A June 5 date for a Red-breasted Nuthatch in Cranesville Bog (Rowlett) suggests possible nesting, since the latest spring departure date on record for Maryland is May 23 (1949). Those observers who are plagued with too many House Wrens will be envious of Richard Rowlett, who on four days in Washington and Allegany Counties, June 4, 5, 8, and 11, found exactly 25 Bewick's Wrens and 1 House Wren. Twenty-two of the Bewick's Wrens were in Allegany County. One pair was nesting above the headlight of an abandoned truck six miles north of Little Orleans.

Vireos. There were many early arrival dates for vireos (see Table 1), and for the White-eyed in particular; however, the only State arrival date broken was for the Warbling Vireo on Apr. 18 at Old Town (Paulus), one day earlier than Jackson's Dorchester County record of over 50 years ago. Rowlett found 2 in the Seneca area on Apr. 20. Early arrivals, however, did not signify high populations. The breeding population of Yellow-throated, White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireos on my study plot at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center near Laurel was 40 percent below the mean for the previous twelve years. A further indication that vireo populations in Maryland are seriously declining is provided by the Breeding Bird Survey; a preliminary analysis of the records for 1965-1972 indicates a highly significant decline in the Maryland breeding population of Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireos. On Sugarloaf Mountain in Frederick County, Richard Rowlett found an early Philadelphia Vireo on May 3, tying the Maryland record. The last transient Warbling Vireo was detected at Greenbelt on May 29 (Hills).

Warblers. Warbler arrivals were early on the average. Herbert Douglas found their average arrival date 3.3 days ahead of his ten-year average in the Oxon Hill area. His daily counts showed numbers to be on a par with previous years, with the peak occurring during the period May 5-20. Dr. Robert Pyle banded twice as many warblers (85) in the spring of 1972 as in the spring of 1971 (41), but he believes the cloudy and damp weather may have kept the birds lower down and increased the possibility of their being captured. All observers agree that the migration ended abruptly in late May (except in Garrett County), rather than spilling over into June as it normally does. Although there were no interesting departure dates other than a Magnolia at Denton on June 2 (Roberta Fletcher), there were several noteworthy early arrivals: Black-and-white Warbler on Mar. 18 (previous State record, Mar. 26) in the Pocomoke Swamp (Rowlett); Swainson's Warbler on Apr. 9 (previous State record, Apr. 21) in the Pocomoke Swamp (Charles Hills); Worm-eating on Apr. 18 in Baltimore (Walter and Peggy Bohanan); Tennessee on Apr. 30 in Montgomery County (Douglas); Nashville on Apr. 23 in Montgomery County (tied the record, Douglas); Magnolia on Apr. 29 in Anne Arundel (Prof. Harold Wierenga) and Dorchester (3 by Armistead) Counties; Cape May on Apr. 24 (previous State record, Apr. 27) at Oxon Hill (Douglas); Black-throated Green on Apr. 16 at Odenton (Danny Bystrak); and Bay-breasted



on May 3 on Sugarloaf Mountain (Rowlett). The most exciting counts were obtained by Richard Rowlett on May 12 on the south and east slopes of Sugarloaf Mountain: 25 Worm-eating, 32 Tennessee, 28 Nashville, 40 Cape May, 15 Black-throated Blue, 7 Blackburnian, as well as 16 other species of warblers! At the same location, he found a male Lawrence's hybrid on May 3. Despite the good variety and high counts during migration, all does not go well with the warblers. The Maryland Breeding Bird Survey data show a declining tendency in the populations of most species during the period 1965-1972. So far this decline is statistically significant only in the case of the American Redstart. Yet, more and more reports of declining populations are accumulating from breeding bird census plots. In my 100-acre Patuxent plot, for example, in the 13th and final year of a long-term study of breeding populations by means of banding and censusing, the number of warblers captured was 49 percent below the mean for the previous twelve years. Netting effort was kept uniform each year, and the study was completed before the Agnes flood. Populations of the Kentucky and Hooded Warblers were the lowest ever. In a census plot at Plum Point in Calvert County, John Fales noted a sharp decline in the Parula and Hooded Warblers as well as the Yellow-throated Vireo. And in a 20-year study at Cabin John Island in the Potomac in Montgomery County, Dr. Joan Criswell (*Atlantic Naturalist* 27: 180-182) remarked on the decline in the Red-eyed Vireo, Parula and Kentucky Warblers and American Redstart. The cause of the decrease has not been determined, but it appears to be related to conditions on the wintering grounds or during migration, because there has not been a corresponding reduction in the permanent resident species.

House Sparrow, Bobolink, Orioles. Another species that is decreasing in Maryland according to the Breeding Bird Survey is the House Sparrow. An estimated 1000 Bobolinks were seen on the Sheppard Pratt grounds in Baltimore on May 15 (Jane Daniels). There were several early sightings of Orchard Orioles: Apr. 19 in Kent County (Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mendinghall), Apr. 20 near Denton (Roberta B. Fletcher), and Apr. 20 in Somerset County (Vaughn).

Grosbeaks. Evening Grosbeaks lingered longer than ever before, especially in the western and central counties. The median departure date was May 12 (6 days late), and the extreme was June 4 west of Hancock in Washington County (Paul DuMont), two days beyond the latest State departure date. Late dates from other counties were May 23 in Garrett (Fran Pope), May 17 in Baltimore (Alma Goldberg), and for the Eastern Shore, May 13 at Greensboro (Marvin Hewitt) and Worcester County (MOS Convention). A Blue Grosbeak seen near Denton on Apr. 19 (Roberta Fletcher) was three days ahead of the earliest Maryland arrival record. There were two very late Rose-breasted Grosbeaks: 1 in Worcester County on May 28 (Vaughn) and 1 on the Piney Neck Breeding Bird Survey route in Kent County on June 11 (Gerry Gardner).

Buntings and Dickcissels. An astonishing count of 270 Indigo Buntings was made in eastern Allegany County at the peak of their migration, May 15 (Rowlett). An adult male Painted Bunting at Kensington, Apr. 18-23, is the subject of a separate note by Richard Rowlett. The

following Dickcissels were undoubtedly winter survivors rather than migrants from South America: 1 female near Frederick, Apr. 2 and 15 (Dr. Phyllida Willis), 1 at Annapolis, Apr. 14-17 (Prof. and Mrs. David Howard), 1 at Laurel, Feb. 20 to Apr. 16 (George Robbins), and 1 male at Hamilton, Jan. 8 to Apr. 4 (Douglas Santoni). Dickcissels from south of the United States do not arrive until May. This species was very scarce (2 birds) this summer on its breeding grounds in the Buckeystown area.

Siskins, House Finches and Crossbills. Late Pine Siskins were seen: on May 10 at Greensboro (Hewitt) and Denton (Mrs. Fletcher); on May 13 at Potomac (Margaret Donald); on May 15 in Howard County (George Chase); and on May 19 in Towson (Marion Glass). Mrs. Joshua Rowe observed a Pine Siskin picking horsehair from a bag at her home in Glen Arm on May 15; but the bird did not remain in the area. House Finches stayed as late as May 6 at feeders in four counties (Table 2). The only Red Crossbill seen was in Worcester County on Apr. 13 (Samuel H. Dyke). White-winged Crossbills, on the other hand, broke all records for late departures. Ten were seen on Apr. 11 at Mile Post 168 on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal near Old Town (Paulus), 8 on Apr. 30 in Ruxton (Ann Wilder), 5 from Apr. 28 to May 1 at Fort Meade (Rena Bishop), and 1 in Allegany County on May 6 (Elise Harmon).

Sparrows. Some of the wintering sparrows also remained in Maryland to exceptionally late dates. Tree Sparrows, for example, were seen near Denton as late as Apr. 21 (Mrs. Roberta Fletcher) and in Garrett County to the record-breaking date of May 6 (Mrs. Frances Pope). Single Swamp Sparrows were banded at Seneca on May 24 (Woodward), at Patuxent on May 25 (Robbins and Bystrak), and at Piscataway Park on May 29 (Kathy Klimkiewicz). A Lark Sparrow seen at West Ocean City on May 7 provided the first spring record for Maryland (Paul DuMont). And finally, one of the most remarkable records of the period was a pair of Lark Sparrows discovered at Fort Meade on May 29 by Major Morgan V. Jones. Efforts to find a nest were unsuccessful, and the birds disappeared after June 10, shortly after the field was used for a Boy Scout campout. Lark Sparrows used to nest in Garrett County (50 birds, including young at Accident on July 24, 1901; and they were common near Red House until about 1926), but there have been no subsequent records during the breeding season anywhere in the State.

U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Laurel, Md.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### Notice--New Lock at Carey Run

It has been necessary to change the lock on the Carey Run Sanctuary house. Visitors must arrange to borrow the key from Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor, 75 Broadway, Frostburg (689-6791).

Save May 5 for the MOS Statewide Bird Count. Check with local chapter.  
Save May 11-13 for the annual MOS CONVENTION at Ocean City.





## COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 4 FREDERICK Monthly Meeting. Ken Willets, State Forester  
 5 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly Meeting. Speaker from Chesapeake Bay Fdn.  
 11 HOWARD Monthly Meeting. Avian Architects by Jerry R. Longcore. Swansfield Elem. School, Columbia, 7:30p.m.  
 13 MONTGOMERY trip to Gude's Nursery, Rockville, 8 a.m.  
 13 BALTIMORE trip to Gibson Island. Meet Gibson Is. gate, 9 a.m.  
 13 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Eastern Neck Is. Nat'l Wildlife Refuge  
 14 HOWARD trip to Bombay Hook Refuge. N.Rhineland, R.Herndon  
 16 BALTIMORE Meeting at Cylburn. Soil Conservation by Robert Shields, and Forestry and Environmental Concerns by A. R. Bond. 8 p.m.  
 18 MONTGOMERY Annual Social. St. John's Parish Hall, 7 p.m.  
 19 CAROLINE Monthly Meeting, County Library, Denton, 7:30 p.m.  
 20 HARFORD trip to Rock Run Sanctuary  
 20 HOWARD trip to woodcock area at Columbia. A. D. Geis leader  
 21 BALTIMORE Covered Dish Supper, Cylburn, 5 p.m. Robert Wirth  
 22 WICOMICO Monthly Meeting. Whistling Swans by Wm. Sladen, 8 pm.  
 23 PATUXENT Monthly Meeting. The High Arctic by Carl Carlson  
 27 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Sandy Point and Westinghouse Pond, 8 a.m.  
 27-28 MONTGOMERY trip to Maryland-Delaware coast  
 28 WICOMICO trip to Blackwater Refuge. Meet at headquarters, 8:30
- Feb. 1 FREDERICK Monthly Meeting. Adventures in the Antilles, J.D.Hardy  
 2 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly Meeting. An Evening with a Peregrinating Bird Nut by Godwin Stevenson. County Library, 8 p.m.  
 6 BALTIMORE Monthly Meeting. The Politics of Ecology by State Senator Julian Lapides and George Wills of Environ.Tr.  
 7 KENT Monthly Meeting. Contact local Chapter for details.  
 8 HOWARD Monthly Meeting. Milpas, Motmots and Mayas. Erv Klaas  
 10 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Java Farm, ecological research center of Smithsonian Inst. and Johns Hopkins U. Meet 7:45 a.m. at Riva Rd. entrance to Parole Plaza parking lot.  
 10 PATUXENT annual trip to local bird feeders. Meet Montgomery St. at Ninth, Laurel, 8:30 a.m. Eleanor Robbins  
 10 HOWARD bird feeder trip. Oakland Mills "Other Barn," 7:30 am.  
 12 KENT Audubon Film, Eastern Birds for the Millions by Donald Heintzelman. Fine Arts Bldg, Washington College, 7:30  
 16 CAROLINE Monthly Meeting. Swan and Osprey studies by Jan Reese. This meeting at Denton Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.  
 17-19 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Bombay Hook, Ocean City and Chincoteague  
 17-19 BALTIMORE trip to Mattamuskeet Refuge, N.C. Phone 823-2650  
 17-19 MONTGOMERY trip to New Jersey coast  
 17-19 HOWARD trip to Blackwater Refuge and Chincoteague Refuge  
 21 ALLEGANY Monthly Meeting: Colorful Wonders of Our Atmosphere

- Feb. 23 BALTIMORE Social Evening. Boehm Birds, exhibit and film by A. William Fetting. Northwood Appold Church. Reservations
- 24 ANNE ARUNDEL Youth Trip to Sandy Point State Park. Meet Annapolis High School flagpole, 8:30. Richard Heise
- 25 BALTIMORE trip to Chesapeake Center for Environmental Studies, Ivy Neck. Meet Ritchie Mart, Rt. 2 at Beltway, 8 a.m.
- 26 WICOMICO Monthly Meeting. Antarctic Vacation by V.E.Unger, 8pm
- 27 PATUXENT Monthly Meeting. Western Hawks by William Clark
- Mar. 1 FREDERICK Monthly Meeting. The Everglades by Robert Hoffman
- 2 ANNE ARUNDEL Annual Lecture. Contact Chapter for details.
- 3 WICOMICO trip to Chincoteague Refuge. Meet at beach parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Leader, Charles Vaughn
- 4 BALTIMORE trip to Susquehanna area. Meet at Edgewood Diner, Rt. 40 East at Rt. 24, 8:30 a.m. Douglas Hackman
- 6 BALTIMORE Meeting. Spring Migration by Steve Simon. Cylburn Mansion, 8 p.m.
- 7 KENT Monthly Meeting. Program by the Juniors
- 8 HOWARD Monthly Meeting. On the Environment by Dr. Dixie Lee Ray of the Atomic Energy Commission. 7:30 p.m.
- 9 BALTIMORE Social Evening. The Torch Bird and Other Maryland Warblers by William Corliss. Cylburn, 8 p.m.
- 10 BALTIMORE trip to Gunpowder State Park. Meet at Korvette's parking lot, Perring Plaza, Beltway exit 30, 8 a.m.
- 10 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Blackwater Refuge. Meet at Anglers, Rt. 50 and service road between Annapolis and Bay Bridge, 7:30 a.m. Leaders John and Helen Ford
- 11 HOWARD trip to Blackwater Refuge. Meet at "Other Barn," Oakland Mills parking area, 7:30 a.m.
- 12 KENT Audubon Film, Bermuda--Land and Sea by Wm. J. Jahodo
- 13 BALTIMORE trip to Lake Roland. Meet Robert E. Lee Park footbridge below dam, 8 a.m. Mrs. Francis Rackemann
- 16 CAROLINE Monthly Meeting. Banding Activities at MOS Sanctuaries by Mrs. Richard D. Cole. Denton Library, 7:30 pm
- 17 BALTIMORE trip to Liberty Lake. Meet Franklin Sr. High, 8 a.m.
- 17 HARFORD trip to Bombay Hook and Little Creek, Del.
- 20 BALTIMORE trip to Lake Roland. See Mar. 13
- 23 BALTIMORE Audubon Wildlife Film, Wildlife Safari to Ethiopia by Jeffrey Boswall (gold medal from Haile Selassie!) Dumbarton Jr. High, Dumbarton Rd. W of 7000 Bl. York Rd. 8 p.m.
- 24 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Myrtle Grove Wildlife Area. Meet Riva Rd. entrance to Parole parking lot, 7:45 a.m. T. White
- 25 FREDERICK trip along banks of the Monocacy River
- 25 BALTIMORE trip to Eastern Neck Refuge, Kent County. Meet at main entrance to refuge, 9 a.m.
- 26 WICOMICO Monthly Meeting. Birds on Stamps by Charles Vaughn
- 27 BALTIMORE trip to Lake Roland. See Mar. 13. Mrs. M. Larrabee
- 27 PATUXENT Monthly Meeting. Birds of Okefenokee Refuge by Larry Calvert. St. Philips Parish Hall, Laurel, 7:45 p.m.
- 28 KENT Audubon Film, Three Seasons North by O. J. Nelson. Fine Arts Building, Washington College, 7:30 p.m.
- 31 WICOMICO trip to Ocean City. Meet East Main St. A&P, 7:30 a.m.

- Apr. 1 BALTIMORE trip to Loch Raven. Meet Towson Plaza parking lot, Dulaney Valley Rd. & Goucher Blvd., 8 a.m.
- 3 BALTIMORE trip to Lake Roland. See Mar. 13
- 3 BALTIMORE Bird Song class by C. Robbins. Cylburn, 8 p.m.
- 4 KENT Monthly Meeting. Plan for the Statewide Bird Count
- 5 FREDERICK Monthly Meeting. The Chemical Aspects of Environmental Pollution by Dr. Phyllida Willis. Winchester Hall, East Church St., Frederick, 7:30 p.m.
- 5 BALTIMORE trip to Cylburn. First of 8 consecutive Thursday fair-weather trips, Spring Birds and Wildflowers. 9am
- 6 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly Meeting. Spring Migration by C. S. Robbins Anne Arundel County Library, 8 p.m.
- 7 BALTIMORE trip to Lake Roland. First of 4 Sat. walks. See Mar. 13
- 7 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Camp Letts. Annapolis High School, 8:30
- 10 BALTIMORE trip to Lake Roland. See Mar. 13. Mrs. R. Geddes
- 10 BALTIMORE Amphibian Class. David Lee and Barbara Rothgaber Cylburn Mansion, 8 p.m.

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## MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

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